

8 KRISTEN THOMAS: I am a native of Nevada. So all
9 you people that came in '73, the doctor who was the expert,
10 I'm a native of Nevada. My father was born in Panaca,
11 Nevada, Lincoln County, and a principal for 46 years. I'm
12 an educator, special ed, speech language pathology for 33
13 years.

14 I was raised in Caliente. And the things we
15 saw at that time were just heart wrenching. We did the
16 same thing Gary Reese was talking about. We all went
17 out to watch this wonderful mushroom go up. We did see
18 dead sheep. We did see dead cows. I did lose friends
19 at 30, at 35. They were dying of this unknown leukemia
20 that was so bad.

21 My mom had some kids out in the playground. I
22 will probably never forget this. When I talk about it,
23 it brings back so many memories to people that were
24 involved. Coming down the road -- they'd had a mistake.
25 You know the mistakes that you heard that there were
1 never any mistakes, one of those.

2 So coming down the street in Caliente was this
3 shiny, shiny, glowy stuff just coming down the street
4 over by the school. It was so frightening, you know.
5 Well, actually, it was gorgeous. But we had a family of
6 children who were albino. And all of a sudden, mom
7 looked at their arms, and they had red and blue and they
8 were just blistered, totally blistered from this.

9 So she returned them into this classroom. And
10 then later they said, oh, there was just this little

11 mass happen. Four of the five children died by the age
12 of 30, leukemia. No, I mean, this is not fun stuff.
13 This is things that are really going on that we have
14 known about.

1 15 [And I loved this man's rendition of -- he is
16 so right about the railroad. He is so right. I mean,
17 there's no way they're going to build a railroad. It
18 will be flooded. Well, in fact, one of the really
19 interesting people said, you know, it has to go through
20 that canyon. Plus, also, it has to -- goes through a
21 great big tunnel.

22 And he said if I were a terrorist and I wanted
23 to do some bad, I'd be right either inside, on the other
24 side, or outside of the tunnel. There's no other place
25 for this -- for the railroad to go.

1 But the weather is horrendous, and it just
2 comes up quickly with high winds and rain and snow and
3 ice. We have lost so many trains. I was raised in this
4 railroad town. So this is a frightening thing.]

5 I've had 10 miscarriages. I'm a very healthy
6 person. They don't know why. This is -- I mean, it was
7 just heart wrenching to me. It was as you say -- "Where
8 are you from? Are you a Downwinder?" I'd say,
9 "Caliente." He'd say, "Well, a Downwinder."
10 Absolutely.

11 One of my dearest friends, a teacher, taught
12 for 30 years, her husband was a rancher, and they had
13 one of the biggest ranches, Kent Whipple. 1,300 acres.
14 He died at 42. This healthy, strapping man, because he

15 was out on the range when these would go off. And he
16 had these sores all over him. He couldn't figure out
17 where they were coming from. And he died. Once it
18 started, he was gone like in six weeks. But that was
19 just one of many.

20 No. I appreciate this doctor that came in
21 1973 and has never seen anything. That's sad because we
22 all have. We've seen it. We've been a part of it.
23 It's part of us. It's part of our history. And we have
24 to do something logical and intelligent, and the
25 logical, intelligent thing to do is figure out what we
1 can do with it.

2 2 [If there's something we can do to diffuse
3 this, let's do it. Do not store it. There's no such
4 thing as a million years or 150 or 300. And not in the
5 area, because I kid you not, I have -- my son-in-law is
6 a mining engineer, and he said that is the worst place
7 to store it. They were in there when they were going
8 through this mining, he was in there with his crew,
9 because they said we've had an earthquake or something.
10 Stuff's coming off the wall, it's shaking. And he said,
11 "My God, they can't have it here." But, of course, that
12 was never in the report, except his.

13 I just want you to know I've lived there. I'm
14 a native Nevadan. And I've seen it from the very raw
15 beginning. And I see no hope in what they're doing. He
16 was so right. They're going about it completely wrong.
17 It's money, money, money, and -- don't confuse me with

18 facts, because we've already made up our mind. This is

19 what we're going to do. We can't let that happen.]